

COMPASS

OF LARIMER COUNTY

www.larimer.org/compass



Establishing A Partnership

In 1999, United Way initiated a process to bring together community leaders and address the need for more coordinated planning in Larimer County.

Compass planners believed that community improvements could happen more efficiently if everyone worked together from the same base of information.

Original Steering Committee Members

Health –

McKee Foundation

Poudre Health Services District

Government –

City of Fort Collins

City of Loveland

Larimer County Health & Human Services

Non-Profits –

Arts Alive

Fort Collins Area United Way*

United Way of Loveland, Berthoud &
Estes Park* [now United Way of Larimer County]

Healthier Communities Coalition

Team Fort Collins

Foundations –

Community Foundation

Stryker-Short* [Bohemian Foundation currently]

Other –

Colorado State University

Coloradoan [Fort Collins newspaper]

Compass - Now

The outcome of that partnership is the Compass of Larimer County website, which went live in April 2001 with 80 indicators –

www.larimer.org/compass

Compass currently carries information about over 200 indicators organized into 9 categories.

COMPASS OF LARIMER COUNTY

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Compass contains a variety of data about important social, economic and environmental issues in Larimer County. The nine categories below provide measures of community- and county-wide progress and compare local data to Colorado and the United States. In addition to statistics, Compass posts reports and studies about our county and provides links to many additional sources of local and national data. Information is constantly being added and updated, making Compass a continuous living report on the quality of life in Larimer County.

What's New

The [Evaluation Report for the Nurse Family Partnership in Colorado](#) [pdf], and the program's [Annual Report](#) [pdf], examine program outcomes and funding for Colorado sites, including Larimer County's nurse home visitation program. Significant outcomes from the evaluation include reductions in smoking during pregnancy and incidences of family/domestic violence, and high rates of initiating breastfeeding and infant immunization. (2/10/05)

[more new info...](#)

Community Development

- [Growth](#)
- [Housing](#)
- [Transportation](#)



Community Living

- [Civic Life](#)
- [Public Sector Performance](#)



Crime & Safety

- [Public Safety](#)
- [Crime](#)



Demographics

- [Demographics](#)



Economy

- [Business](#)
- [Individual](#)



Education

- [Early Childhood](#)
- [K-12](#)
- [Adult](#)



Enrichments

- [Arts & Culture](#)
- [Recreation](#)



Environment

- [Use of Resources](#)
- [Quality](#)



Health

- [Physical Health](#)
- [Mental Health](#)
- [Alcohol, Tobacco & Drugs](#)



This website is a service of Larimer County Division of [Health and Human Services](#) and the [United Way of Larimer County](#).



Compass - Now

⊕ Data Pages

- Charts & Data Tables
- Related Studies
- Links to resources

⊕ Community Index – *November 2001*

⊕ In-house Reports – *July 2003*

⊕ Business Index – *November 2004*

Compass - Future

⊕ Forecasting

⊕ Housing 2006

FORECASTING

Why?

- ✦ To better allocate limited resources to crucial and deserving programs.
- ✦ Within agencies, effective forecasting helps in making management decisions about programs.

What are we doing?

- ⊕ Identify factors that influence the target.
- ⊕ Determining how each factor impacts the target → assign a quantitative value and mathematical relationship among the factors.
- ⊕ Use software to create calculable relationships among factors, and calculate the results.

DecisionPro -

1. Trend Information
2. What if?

Compass – The Original Vision

The result:

- Reliable, one-stop source for data and associated links.
- Used for local funding decisions and needs assessments.
(HHS Community Partnerships, United Way of Larimer County, Larimer County Health Department, City of Loveland)
- Stable group of staff to maintain and improve the website.

Compass – The Original Vision

Unrealized Expectations:

- Continuous supply of new data from stakeholder/ key informant agencies.
- Used universally by community planners, and used to set goals for community well-being.
- Marketing through original Stakeholder Marketing Committee.
- Updating of Community Index Feature.

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